

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace FIGS. 1-3 with the FIGS. 1-3 on the attached Replacement Sheets. FIG. 1 has been amended to show the tool operating in borehole and to include reference numerals indicating the jetted stream, the entrance window, and the return stream, and FIGS. 2 and 3 have been amended to show the fluid path connecting the return stream with the entrance window, as required by the Examiner. Corresponding amendments to the text are made below.

Please replace the five paragraphs that begin at page 4, line 10 and end at page 4, line 19, with the following:

FIG. 1 is a schematic longitudinal cross section ~~along line E-E of~~ part of a tool for excavating an object constructed in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention, shown in a borehole;

FIG. 2 is a side view of the tool of FIG. 1 showing the filtering means embodied in the form of a skirt;

FIG. 3 is a cross sectional view through line A-A on Fig. 2 of an embodiment of the abrasive particle inlet and the skirt;

FIG. 4 is a surface map of a possible magnet surface arrangement for the tool of FIG. 1; and

FIGS. 5a-5c show ~~(parts a to c)~~ an alternative magnet arrangement for use in the tool.

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, lines 25-32 with the following:

Part of a tool for excavating an object is schematically shown in longitudinal section in FIG. 1. The tool can be connected to the lower end of a drill string (not shown) extending into a borehole formed in an object such as an earth formation 20. The tool is arranged to jet a stream 34 of drilling fluid mixed with abrasive particles against the object to be excavated and to recirculate at least part of the abrasive particles.

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 16-23 with the following:

The stream flows from ~~the~~ mixing chamber 2 to ~~the~~ mixing nozzle 5 as jettted stream 34 and is jettted against the borehole bottom. Simultaneously the drill string is rotated so that the borehole bottom is evenly eroded. A return stream36, containing the fluid, the abrasive particles and excavation debris, flows from the borehole bottom through the borehole in a direction back to the surface. Thereby, the return stream passes along the sleeve 15.

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, lines 6-16 with the following:

The magnetic forces exerted to the abrasive particles are lower in the low-field band than in the high-field band. The magnetic particles retained on the support surface 15 are attracted towards the band having the highest magnetic field. Due to rotation of the separator magnet 7 in a direction against the sense of the helical bands, the respective bands and the gradient zone in between exert a force to the magnetic particles in a direction perpendicular to the gradient zone, which has a downward component, thereby forcing the particles to follow a helically downward movement. The particles on support surface 15, along with a portion of the returning fluid, move toward abrasive particle inlet 4 along a fluid path 39 (FIGS. 2 and 3).

On page 11, on line 32, after "the entrance window" insert -- (shown in phantom at 38)--.